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DALTON-IN-FURNESS
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1939.



DALTON-IN-FURNESS:
J. SINKINSON & SON, PRINTERS,
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DALTON-IN-FURNESS URBAN DISTRICT, 1939.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Dalton-in-Furness
Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

By Circular 1961 dated the 16th February, 1940, the Minister of Health directs that the Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1939 should be considerably curtailed, being confined to essential and urgent matters affecting the public health.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.—I need not repeat, that your District is kept under very close supervision. If proof of this were needed it will be found in the Inspector's Report from which I am quoting under the appropriate heading.

WATER SUPPLY.—The undertakers for the supply of water to your District are the Barrow-in-Furness Corporation, and during no period of the year has there been any anxiety from fear of shortage but unfortunately there are certain dwellings which are outside the radius of the mains whose supply is unsatisfactory, and although the Council has given a great deal of consideration to bringing about an improvement this has never been found practicable.

WATER SERVICE PIPES have been renewed during the year as follows:—

Union Street, No. 19.
Market Street, No. 32
Furness Place, Askam, Nos. 9, 16 & 22
Steel Street, No. 89
Cleator Street, No. 27
Rawlinson Street, No. 28
Anticross, Nos. 4-6 & 8
Underwood, Nos 4-5 & 6
Napier Street, Nos. 30 & 32
Fell Croft, No. 4
Victoria Street, Askam, No. 15

Total 18

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—A Ministry Inquiry into the question of providing a system of Sewerage and Sewage disposal should have been held in September, but was postponed on account of the outbreak of war.

HOUSING.—All Housing Schemes have been abandoned for the time, but I append hereto the Inspectors report.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	766
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1117
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	87
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	194
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	87

2. *Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices :—*

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	52
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which informal statutory notices were served requiring repairs	18
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ...	8
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	4

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	71
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	61
(a) By owners	59
(b) By local authority in default of owners	2

4. *Housing Act, 1936 — Part IV. — Overcrowding:—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	2
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	12
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Adults 2 Children 7
	9

COWSHEDS.—With very few exceptions the production of milk is carried out under favourable conditions, and there is a laudable desire that such an important article of food should be produced under the most favourable conditions.

One new Shed to accomodate 41 dairy cows has been constructed and has been approved by the County for the production of accredited milk

MEAT INSPECTION, 1939:—Return of diseases for which carcasses were totally or partially condemned :

Diseases	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Weight lbs.
Tuberculosis	2	3	...	...	...	2280
Suffocation	...	...	1	...	...	35
Abscesses	...	1	...	...	...	140
Totals	2	4	1	...	...	2455

RETURN OF DISEASES FOR WHICH ORGANS
WHERE CONDEMNED

LUNGS						
Tuberculosis	5	6	...	...	...	130
HEADS						
Tuberculosis	6	...	...	1	...	132
Actinomycosis	...	1	...	...	...	4
HEARTS						
Pericarditis	...	1	...	...	...	6
STOMACH						
Tuberculosis	2	3	...	...	...	200
Peritonitis	1	...	..	...	...	40
UDDERS						
Tuberculosis	...	2	...	...	...	8
Magtitis	...	1	...	...	...	4
LIVERS						
Tuberculosis	2	3	...	..	...	60
Angioma	...	2	...	...	...	24
Cirrhosis	7	11	...	...	...	216
Cysts	...	2	...	...	...	24
Distomatosis	...	...	15	...	...	20
SPLEENS						
Tuberculosis	...	4	...	...	...	...
Totals	23	36	15	1	...	1194

ASHPITS CLEANSING, 1939.

The table furnished by your Inspector will prove that this important branch of sanitary administration is not neglected.

1939 Month	No. Ashpits Emptied	No. Loads Collected	No. Loads TradeRefuse	Total Loads	Approx. Tonn,
Jan.	53	146	8	154	292
Feb.	44	98	8	106	196
March	47	108	8	116	232
April	55	110	8	118	236
May	53	108	8	116	232
June	56	109	8	117	230
July	79	125	8	133	260
Aug.	61	103	8	125	215
Sept.	91	101	8	109	218
Oct.	71	100	8	108	210
Nov.	81	110	8	112	226
Dec.	56	68	6	72	142
	747	1286	94	1386	2689

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) 7,994.

Population (1931 Census) 10,339

„ (1938 Estimated) 10,479.

Number of inhabited houses (1938) 3,100.

Rateable Value £41,299.

Amount produced by a Penny Rate £152.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

					Birth-rate
Births	Legitimate	Total	M	F.	per 1000
		178	98	80	18.2
	Illegitimate	6	1	5	
		184	99	85	

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BIRTHS:—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.	Rate per 1000
Dalton & Newton Lindal & Marton Askam & Ireleth	29	36	22	21	108	15.8
	1	4	4	2	11	15.4
	21	17	12	15	65	23.8
Totals	51	57	38	38	184	18.2

For the year ending 1938 there were 164 births producing a rate per 1000 of 15.6.

DEATHS.—To calculate the true death rate it is necessary to enumerate the total number of deaths occurring in the District, and subtract from the total number of non-residents deaths which have occurred and been transferred away, and to this result add the number of residents who have died outside the District and have been transferred to the District.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS:—

	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Total		Rate per 1000
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Dalton & Newton	15	20	13	12	7	16	5	10	40	58	14.2
Lindal & Marton	3	—	1	—	—	4	4	4	8	8	22.4
Askam & Ireleth	5	7	1	6	2	4	2	7	10	24	12.4
Totals	23	27	15	18	9	24	11	21	58	90	14.3

AGE PERIODS AT WHICH THE DEATHS OCCURRED:—

	Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	4	2	—	—	1	3	5	5
Between 1 & 65	14	24	4	2	3	11	21	37
Upwards of 65	22	32	4	6	6	10	32	48
Totals	40	58	8	8	10	24	58	90

INFANTILE DEATHS.—From the table above, of the age periods at which the deaths occurred it will be noted that there have been 10 Infantile deaths, that is deaths of Infants who have died before reaching the end of their first year of life, producing an Infant death rate of 54.3 per 1000 births.

DISTRIBUTION AND CAUSES.

	Dalton & Newton		Lindal & Marton		Askam & Ireleth		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Bronchitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital Defects ...	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	2
Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals	4	2	—	—	1	3	5	5
Death-rate per 1000 Births	55.5				61.5		54.3	

In this connection I am presenting a report upon the activities of the Infant Welfare Centre kindly furnished to me by Nurse Tomkinson.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—Tuesday and Thursdays 9-30 to 12. Nurse in attendance on Tuesday only. Dr. Ashcroft, Medical Officer present Thursday.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.—Alternate Wednesday mornings 9-30 to 12, (Dr. Plowright).

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.—Every Wednesday afternoon, the Specialist present 2 to 4 p.m. Mr. Stoneham.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—Thursday afternoon 1-30 to 4.

Welfare Centre—No. of times open in 1939	48
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No. of Individual Children attending :—

Under 1 year of age	198
From 1—2 years of age	117
Over 2 years of age	...	...	...	148
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	39

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC opened in October.

Number of Individual Mothers 37.

TUBERCULAR DISEASES.

I give herewith the usual tables referring to the number of cases of Tuberculosis of the various organs as notified and referred to the Tuberculosis Department for treatment.

NEW CASES		Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Total.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		7	3	1	1	1	3	9	7
Non-Pulm. Tuberculosis		6	6			1	1	7	7
DEATHS									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		4	2		1		2	4	5
Non-Pulm. Tuberculosis			2						2

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	...
5—10	1	...	3	2	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	1
15—20	2	2	...	...	...	3	...	...
20—25	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
25—35	2	...	2	1	1	...	...	1
35—45	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
45—55	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
55—65	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 upwards	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals	9	7	7	7	4	5	...	2

From the above table it will be observed that there have been 9 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis 0.87 per 1000, from Tuberculosis of other organs 0.19. Comparing these figures with those for the rest of the County we find that the Administrative County for Pulmonary Tuberculosis the rate has been 0.46 and for Tuberculosis of other organs 0.10 per 1000. For the rest of England and Wales the rate was 0.58 per 1000. Last year the rate per 1000 for Pulmonary Tuberculosis in your District was 0.49 and for Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 0.95

CANCER DEATHS.—

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000
Dalton & Newton	5	8	13	1.85
Lindal & Marton		1	1	1.40
Askam & Ireleth		3	3	1.09
Totals	5	12	17	1.64

Age periods at which the deaths occurred and organs affected.

	25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 55		55 to 65		65 up		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Rectum ...						1	1				1	1
Stomach ...					1		1				1	1
Intestine ...							1		1		0	2
Breast ...							1				0	1
Prostate ...									1		1	0
Larynx ...									1		1	0
Liver ...				1					1	1	1	2
Uterus ...						1					0	1
Ovary ...						2					0	2
Thigh ...							1				0	1
Oesophagus ...							1				0	1
Totals ...				1	1	4	1	5	3	2	5	12

In the year ending 1939 there were 19 deaths from Cancer of various organs, the death rate then being 1.74 for the year under review, the table shows 17 deaths producing a death rate of 1.64, for the Administrative County of Lancashire the death rate was 1.63 and for the rest of England and Wales 1.59 per 1000, so that in spite of all our efforts we do not appear to make any very rapid progress in stamping out the disease.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.—I have received reports of one death from Measles and one from Whooping Cough, giving a death rate of .19 per 1000.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Diphtheria	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1
Erysipelas	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2
Totals	1	1		1	2	6	4	7

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—

	under Totals	1 1	2 & 2	3 & 3	4 & 4	5 & 5	10 & 10	15 & 15	20 & 20	35 & 35	45 & 45	65 & 65	up- ward	Cases removed to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...		2
Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...		2
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2		1
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		1
Whooping C.	3	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...		...
Totals	11	...	...	2	1	3	...	1	1	...	1	2		6

Looking through my Annual Reports during the time I have been your Medical Officer I cannot find any year when I have had to report so very few cases of Infectious Diseases, and although we must not be too sanguine as to what the future may bring us, at the moment it is very satisfactory.

There has been one death from measles.

PNEUMONIA BRONCHITIS & INFLUENZA.—Seven deaths have been registered as arising from Pneumonia, seven from Bronchitis and two from Influenza.

LABORATORY WORK —Medical Practitioners are given every facility for Laboratory investigation, and all Antitoxines are supplied free.

I am indebted to the members of the Council and my colleagues for their ever ready assistance and encouragement.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON,

L.R.C.P. LOND., M.R.C.S. ENG., D.P.H. LOND.

Medical Officer of Health.

19th August, 1940.







